will require a reorientation of national priorities, technology policy and Government action.

The report indicates that India needs to generate around 200 million additional employment opportunities over the next 20 years. It also identifies high employment potential sectors, like commercial agriculture, agro-industry and agri-business; forestation for pulp; fuel and power, retail and wholesale trade; tourism, housing and construction; IT and IT-enabled services; transport and communications; education, health and financial services.

Requirement of employment

†1027. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fifty crore persons require employment in the country out of which about 40 crore persons have employment at present;

(b) if not, the facts thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 75 lakh new aspirants come in the queue for getting employment every year; and

(d) if not, Government's assessment in this regard and the number of youths likely to be left unemployed by the end of Tenth Five Year Plan period after implementation of Government's employment generating schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) As per the estimates available from labour force surveys carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), estimated labour force and work force in the country during 1999-2000 were of the order of 406 million and 397 million respectively. Therefore the number of unemployed was of the order of 9 million.

(c) Labour force which was of the order of 382 million in 1993-94 has gone up to 406 million in 1999-2000. Therefore during 1994—2000, the net addition to labour force was of the order of 24 million.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The Special Group headed by Dr. S.P. Gupta Member, Planning Commission has estimated that with the target of achieving 10 million jobs per year it will be possible to eliminate unemployment by the end of 2012.

Loss of jobs by women

1028. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of women have lost their jobs in the unorganized sector in the country; and

(b) if so, the details for the last three years in agriculture, handicraft, fisheries sectors etc., State-wise and sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Social and medical security benefits

1029. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ESIC Review Committee has recommended enhancement of wage ceiling for coverage of social and medical security benefits;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) whether Government have decided not to establish new ESI hospitals/dispensaries and to out source medical facilities for workers from private hospitals/clinics; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri M.C. Verma to review the working of ESI Scheme in its report submitted to the Government has recommended that the existing wage ceiling may be enhanced from Rs. 6,500/- p.m. to Rs. 9,000/- p.m.